

REMARKS

The Abstract of the disclosure has been amended such that it does not exceed 150 words.

The disclosure is objected to because of informalities on page 5, lines 23-25. The amendment to the specification section of this amendment addresses this objection. In addition, the Examiner states that the specification does not explain as to what "SDU" stands for. Page 3, line 8, defines SDU as a selector and distributor unit. The amendment to the specification section of this amendment addresses the objections to lines 4-6 of paragraph [0018] of the specification.

The Drawing objections have been corrected. Corrected drawings are submitted with this Amendment.

Claims 1, 10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,393,012 (Pankaj). Claims 6, 7, 15, 16 and 19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pankaj in view of US Patent No. 6,744,808 (Walley et al.). Claims 2-5, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 17, 18 and 20 are objected to presumably as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of allowable dependent claim 2. Claim 2 has been cancelled. Independent claim 10 has been amended to include the limitation of allowable dependent claim 11. Claim 11 has been cancelled. Independent claim 19 has been amended to include the limitation of allowable dependent claim 20. Thus, Applicants assert that amended independent claims 1, 10 and 19 are now allowable and that dependent claims 3-9 and 12-18 are allowable by virtue of their dependency, directly or indirectly, on claims 1 and 10, respectively.

Applicant requests the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Please charge any fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees, to 50-2117.

Respectfully submitted,
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